



CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
Bulletin
[DEED CACFP Bulletin Web Page](#)

Child Nutrition Programs
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To: CACFP Sponsors and Institutions

Date: August 7, 2020

From: Ann-Marie Martin, CACFP Program Coordinator

Bulletin: 2020-06

Sponsoring organizations and institutions are required, by regulation, to keep Bulletins, Instructions, and USDA Policy Memorandums for reference and to apply immediately the appropriate instruction to agency programs. Contact Child Nutrition Programs if you need further clarification.

USDA Policy Memos that have been posted on the CNP Database Welcome Page:

- [COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #39– Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for Sponsors in the Child Nutrition Programs](#)

Additional Topics

- CACFP Sponsor Monitoring Waiver
- CACFP Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver
- CACFP Non-Congregate Feeding Waiver
- CACFP Management Plan Addendum – New for FY2021
- CACFP Reimbursement Rates 7/1/20-6/30/21
- Alaska Smart Start Summer Virtual Summit
- New Office of Childcare COVID-19 Resources
- New USDA Team Nutrition CACFP Resources

Resources

- REMINDER: USDA Building for the Future flyers need to be posted in each facility
- State of Alaska up to date COVID-19
- CACFP Resources from Team Nutrition
- FREE online training videos for ServSafe Take Out & ServSafe Delivery COVID-19 Precautions
- COVID-19 Resources for Child Care
- USDA CACFP Crediting Webinar Recordings
- USDA Halftime: Thirty on Thursdays Webinar
- CACFP Operational Resources Education (CORE) online training
- Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) - Mealtime Memo, eLearning Portal
- WIC Breastfeeding Support Learn Together. Grow Together
- USDA Meal Pattern Training Worksheets
- Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) Meal Pattern on one sheet
- Updated Food Buying Guide
- Alaska Child Nutrition Programs Listserv

USDA Policy, Information & Implementation Memos

- **COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #39– Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for Sponsors in the Child Nutrition Programs**

FNS waives, for all sponsoring organizations that elect to be subject to this waiver, that reviews conducted pursuant to regulations at 226.16(d)(4)(iii) be conducted onsite. This waiver allows for offsite monitoring in addition to the flexibilities provided for sponsors in the extension of [COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #27](#): Nationwide Waiver of Monitoring Requirements for Sponsors in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, issued June 8, 2020 and effective through August 31, 2020. This waiver is effective immediately, and remains in effect through September 30, 2021.

Sponsors must submit a waiver request to Ann-Marie Martin, CACFP Coordinator, in order to take advantage of this waiver after August 31, 2020.

Additional Topics

- **CACFP Sponsor Monitoring Waiver**

Alaska Child Nutrition Programs has been authorized by USDA Food Nutrition Services (FNS) to provide a waiver for onsite monitoring requirements under program regulations contained at 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii). This waiver also allows for offsite monitoring.

Waiver request posted on the FY2021 CNP Database Checklist tab. Upload to CNP if starting October 1st or after – otherwise send via e-mail to Ann-Marie Martin and/or Jennifer Cherian at DEED. **If you had an approved waiver in the past it expires August 31st so a new waiver must be received by September 1st.**

CACFP Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver

Alaska Child Nutrition Programs has been authorized to provide waivers for CACFP Sponsors to allow for meal pattern flexibility during the COVID-19. The State Agency will consider requests that are targeted and justified based upon disruptions to the availability of food products resulting from unprecedented impacts of COVID-19. Program operators are strongly encouraged to maintain and meet the nutrition standards for each Program to the greatest extent possible. Program operators electing to utilize this waiver must identify the food component(s) they are not able to meet and provide a justification why the meal pattern cannot be met. As a reminder, Federal procurement regulations at 2 CFR 200.320(f) allow procurement by noncompetitive proposals when there is a public emergency. This is a waiver of federal regulation 7 CFR 226.20.

Waiver request posted on the FY2021 CNP Database Checklist tab. Upload to CNP if starting October 1st or after – otherwise send via e-mail to Ann-Marie Martin and/or Jennifer Cherian at DEED. **If you had an approved waiver in the past it expired July 31st so a new waiver must be received by September 1st.**

- **CACFP Non-Congregate Feeding Waiver**

Alaska Child Nutrition Programs has been authorized to provide waivers for CACFP sponsors **for non-congregate feeding for enrolled students (and eligible participants for At-Risk/OSHC)** for program flexibility to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). To qualify for this waiver Sponsors/Institutions must develop meal distribution methods to ensure accountability and integrity. Procedures must be submitted with the waiver. This would include attendance and meal count recordkeeping. Meal distribution methods may vary by community risk levels. This is a waiver of federal regulation 7 CFR 226.19(b)(6)(iii): Maintain children on-site while meals are consumed.

Alaska Child Nutrition Programs has been authorized to provide waivers for CACFP sponsors for **meal service time flexibility**, this waiver allows CACFP sponsors the flexibility to align meal service times as necessary. Under Program regulations at 7 CFR 226.20(k), Child Nutrition Programs meals must follow meal service time requirements. However, FNS recognizes that for school year 2020-2021, waiving the meal service time requirements will support safer access to nutritious meals.

Alaska Child Nutrition Programs has been authorized to provide a waiver for CACFP sponsors to **distribute meals to a parent or guardian for their enrolled children**. Sponsors will need to notify the State of their plan to maintain accountability and program integrity, which includes tracking system to ensure only meals provided for children (or adult participants if sponsor of Adult Care). This is a waiver of federal regulation 7 CFR 226.2 (Meals).

Waiver request posted on the FY2021 CNP Database Checklist tab. Upload to CNP if starting October 1st or after – otherwise send via e-mail to Ann-Marie Martin and/or Jennifer Cherian at DEED. **If you had an approved waiver in the past it expires August 31st so a new waiver must be received by September 1st.**

- **CACFP Management Plan Addendum – NEW for FY2021!**

There are five additional questions located on the CNP Database Checklist Tab that need to be answered and uploaded this year. Each agency will answer the questions and attach their policy and procedures (P&P) with the page number where your agency addresses the issue that is posed in each question.

- **CACFP Reimbursement Rates 7/1/20-6/30/21**

The updated reimbursement rates are posted on the CNP Database Checklist Tab.

- **Alaska Smart Start Summer Virtual Summit**

DEED is hosting the Alaska Smart Start Summer Virtual Summit, which is professional development opportunity open to anyone who wants to be part of the dialogue around the restart of school. Once an attendee registers they can pick and choose which sessions to attend. You can find more information and registration at: <https://aklearns.org/smartwebinar/>.

- **New Office of Child Care COVID-19 Resources**

The Office of Child Care (OCC) continues to add online resources to help Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program grantees respond to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Recent

updates include new content in the frequently asked questions (FAQ) section of the [Office of Child Care COVID-19 Resources page](#).

- **New USDA Team Nutrition CACFP Resources!**

USDA Team Nutrition has been busy creating new resources that you can find on the Team Nutrition Meal Pattern Training Worksheets page at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/meal-pattern-training-worksheets-cacfp>.

- Is My Recipe whole Grain-Rich in the CACFP?
- Serving Meats and Meat Alternates at Breakfast

Resources

- **REMINDER: USDA Building for the Future flyers need to be posted in each facility**

USDA has updated their Building for the Future flyers and each sponsor should download it from the bulletin page on the Alaska CACFP webpage and type in their name of agency and contact information, then print and post at each center/site.

- **State of Alaska up to date COVID-19** <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/default.aspx>

- **CACFP Resources from Team Nutrition – now in Spanish as well!**

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative recently released seven new resources for the CACFP. All resources are now available for download and viewing at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp-training-tools>.

New resources include:

- Updated Crediting Handbook for the Child and Adult Care Food Program
- New CACFP Meal Pattern Training Worksheets:
 - Using the Nutrition Facts Label in the CACFP
 - Serving Vegetables in the CACFP
 - Serving Snacks in the CACFP
 - How to Spot Whole Grain-Rich Foods for the CACFP
 - Using the WIC Food Lists to Identify Grains for the CACFP

- **FREE online training videos from ServSafe**

ServSafe is offering FREE online training videos to assist food preparation/delivery operators during the COVID-19 emergency. You can access these videos and resources on their website:

<https://www.servsafe.com/Landing-Pages/Free-Courses>

- ServSafe Reopening Guidance: COVID-19 Precautions
- ServSafe Delivery: COVID-19 Precautions
- ServSafe Takeout: COVID-19 Precautions

- **COVID-19 Resources for Child Care**

COVID-19 recommendations change very quickly so it's important to continually check the recommendations for updates. Two good websites for child care providers are the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html> and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) at <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/guidance-related-to-childcare-during-covid-19/>.

- **USDA CACFP Crediting Webinar Recordings: [Be in the Know! Webinar Series](#)**

- [Guidance on Dried Meat Products](#)
 - [Additional Meat/Meat Alternate Options – Tempeh and Surimi:](#)
 - [Crediting Vegetable Noodles and Coconut](#)
 - [Crediting Popcorn, Hominy, Corn Masa and Masa Harina in the CNPs](#)
- **USDA Halftime: Thirty on Thursdays Webinar**
 - [Link to USDA Halftime Thirty on Thursdays Webinar Recordings](#)
 - **CACFP Operational Resources Education (CORE) online training**
 CORE is funded by USDA and they have three trainings that are now available online for sponsors' viewing pleasure! Subjects are Monitoring and Oversight, Financial Viability, and Serious Deficiency. Encourage your sponsors to view and learn! It's a great time to get extra training in while working from home!
<http://www.core-cacfp.com/online-training/>
 - **[Institute of Child Nutrition Resources](#)** This site has CACFP Meal Pattern resources, eLearning Trainings, Educational Resources, and a searchable database for CACFP related research articles.
 - **WIC Breastfeeding Support Learn Together. Grow Together**
 FNS has launched a new breastfeeding campaign, WIC Breastfeeding Support Learn Together. Grow Together. Campaign materials can be found at [WIC Breastfeeding Support](#) website geared towards WIC moms.

[Family and friends](#) will find resources on the WIC website, including videos from real dads and grandparents, to learn more about breastfeeding and how they can support mom and baby on their breastfeeding journey. Likewise, [WIC partners and staff](#) can access resources on the site to download, print and share with moms to help them meet their breastfeeding goals. Some resources, such as *Grow and Glow in WIC*, are now available on the WIC Works Resource System.
 - **Updated Food Buying Guide** USDA has released the updated Food Buying Guide to help nutrition staff understand number of portions when purchasing foods. You can download the [Food Buying Guide](#) on the USDA site.
 - **Alaska Child Nutrition Programs Listserv-** Did You Know? Alaska Child Nutrition Programs has a listserv. The purpose of the listserv is to provide information and updates on the USDA Child Nutrition Programs, including the National School Lunch Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the Summer Food Service Program. To receive all of the hottest news and updates from Alaska Child Nutrition Programs, subscribe at [Alaska Child Nutrition Programs ListServ](#). You will receive a confirmation link via email, and you should click to complete your subscription.

Contact information

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Commonly Used Acronyms

CACFP – Child and Adult Care Food Program
 CNP – Child Nutrition Programs
 FNS – Food & Nutrition Services
 FNSRO – Food & Nut Reg. Office
 USDA – US Department of Agriculture
 LEA – Local Education Authority
 DEC – Dept. of Environmental Conservation

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